

KING'S BRIDGE
Spanning Laurel Hill Creek at bypassed State Highway No. 653
New Lexington
Somerset County
Pennsylvania

HAER PA-638
PA-638

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

KING'S BRIDGE

HAER No. PA-638

LOCATION: Spanning Laurel Hill Creek at bypassed section of State Route 653, New Lexington, Somerset County, Pennsylvania
UTM: 17.647685.4422271 Kingwood, Pennsylvania Quad.

STRUCTURAL TYPE: Multiple kingpost truss covered bridge with auxiliary tied arch

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: Probably mid-1800s; rebuilt 1906

BUILDER: Unknown

OWNER: Southern Alleghenies Conservancy

PREVIOUS USE: Vehicular bridge

PRESENT USE: Historic landmark and tourist attraction

SIGNIFICANCE: Although the history of this bridge has not been thoroughly documented, physical evidence suggests that King's Bridge was originally built in the mid-nineteenth century and largely rebuilt in 1906. Bypassed in the 1930s, King's Bridge was privately owned and maintained by the King family of Middlecreek Township, who used it as a livestock barn until 2002. The bridge is currently undergoing rehabilitation and will be preserved as an historic landmark and tourist attraction. King's Bridge is a good example of a multiple kingpost truss and has been retrofitted with unusual auxiliary tied arches. It is one of ten surviving covered bridges in Somerset County, whose dates range from 1845 to 1902.

HISTORIAN: Researched and written by Lola Bennett, March 2006

PROJECT INFORMATION: The National Covered Bridges Recording Project is part of the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), a long-range program to document historically significant engineering and industrial works in the United States. HAER is administered by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, a division of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The Federal Highway Administration funded the project.